CAPTAIN AMERICA

NO. 57

10¢

JULY

COMICS

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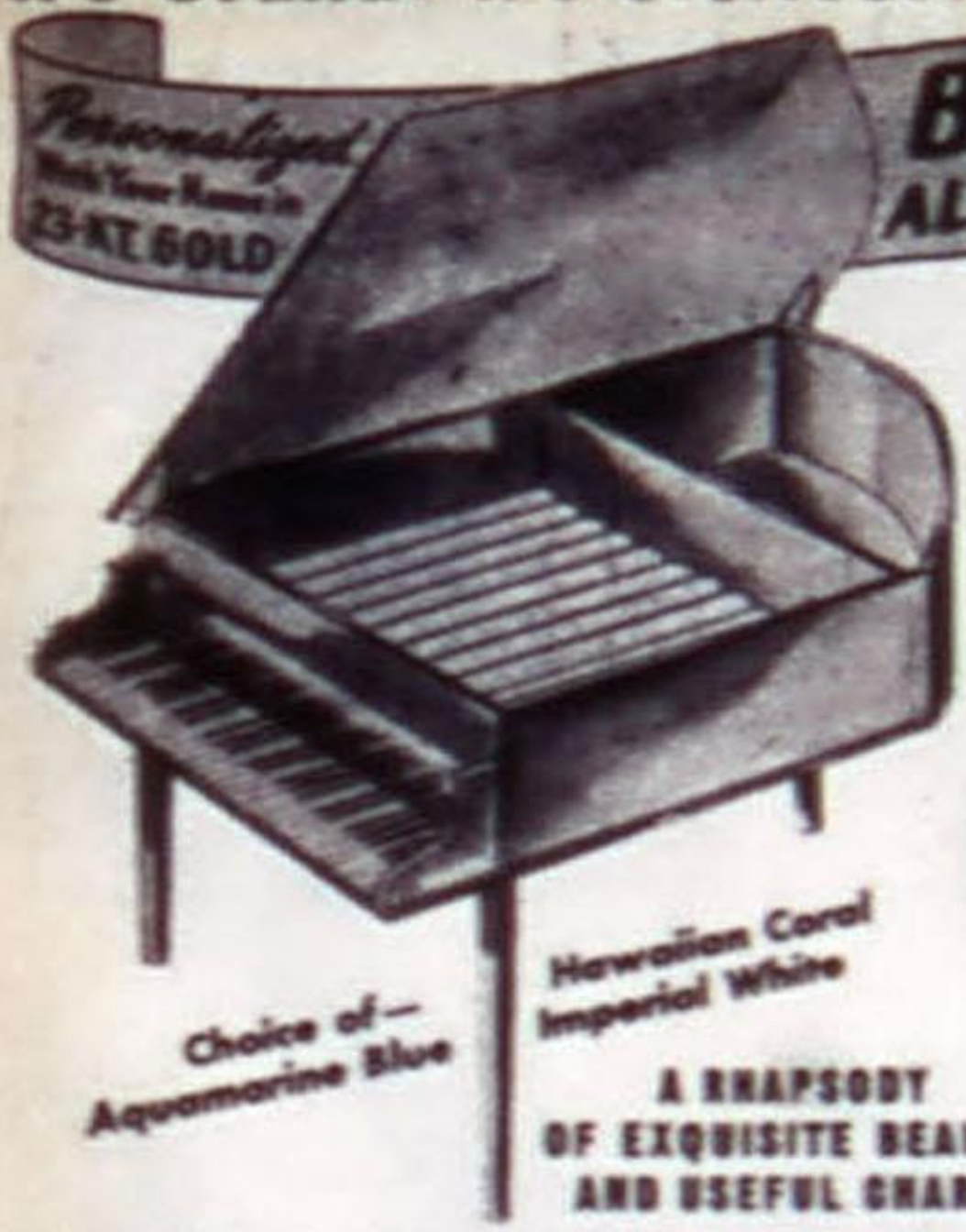

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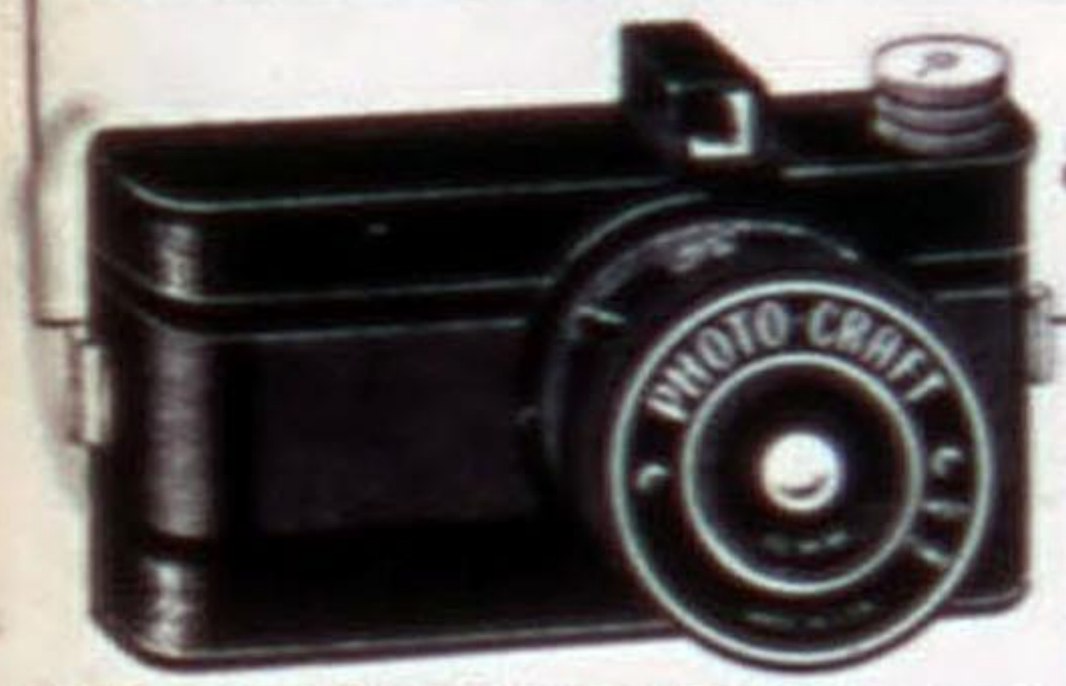

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THE SMOOTH, SOFT TONES OF A HANDSOME CROONER BECOME THE POISONOUS NOTES OF THE VOICE OF DEATH, AS THEY SPREAD HAVOC THROUGHOUT THE LAND, UNTIL CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY GET ON THE BEAM AND BECOME "HEP" TO—

DEATH ON THE DOWNBEAT

CAPTAIN AMERICA

IN A DOCTOR'S SURGERY ROOM....

BEST JOB OF PLASTIC SURGERY I EVER DID!

MARVELOUS, OR WELL'S I NOT A SIGN OF THE SCARS, AND HE LOOKS ENOUGH LIKE--

SHUT YOUR TRAP!

WHY-I--I- DIDN'T.

NOW, GENTLEMEN EXCUSE ME, I'M BUSY!

YOU MAY LEAVE THE FEE WITH MY SECRETARY. I--ER---

I'D RATHER PAY YOU, DOC...

LIKE THIS!

BUT IT'S MURDER!

SURE-BUT IT SERVES A DOUBLE PURPOSE WE SAVE THE FEE AND KEEP MY SE-CRET SAFE! HA! HA!

NOW GET GOING! YOU HAVE A JOB TO DO, AND SEE THAT YOU DO IT OR YOU GET THE SAME DOSE! I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE ALLEY NEAR THE STAGE DOOR!

EVERAL WEEKS LATER, WE MEET STEVE ROGERS AND HIS PAL BUCKY, ABSORBED IN A SENSATIONAL NEWS HEADLINE.....

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THEY CAN'T HOLD HIM?

BECAUSE HE HAS A FOOLPROOF ALIBI!

WOW! I'LL SAY IT'S AN ALIBI! HOW COULD HE HAVE SNATCHED THE JEWELS FROM THE WOMEN IN THE AUDIENCE WHEN HE WAS ON THE **STAGE, CROONING?**

THAT'S IT! THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO THE THEATRE TONIGHT!

MEANWHILE, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

WHAT WILL MY PUBLIC THINK? HOW DARE YOU--

TAKE IT EASY! DON'T EXCITE YOURSELF!

I CAN'T GO THROUGH SUCH AN ORDEAL! DOCTOR MY SMELLING SALTS!

HE'S NOT WELL INSPECTOR, THAT'S WHY I TRAVEL WITH HIM WHEREVER HE GOES!

HMMPH!

I KNOW HE WAS SINGING AT THE TIME, BUT WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO WHEN ALL THE WOMEN **IDENTIFIED HIM AS THE GUY WHO SNATCHED THEIR JEWELS?**

I THINK I CAN EXPLAIN THAT, INSPECTOR!

WE MUSTN'T FORGET THE **TREMENDOUS** AND **PSYCHOLOGICAL** EFFECT HE HAS ON WOMEN! THEY ARE SO IMPRESSED WITH HIS TERRIFIC PERSONALITY THAT A FORM OF **HYPNOSIS** OCCURS AND HIS IMAGE IMPRESSED ON THEIR MINDS, CAUSES **HALLUCINATIONS!**

THUS, WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THE IDENTITY OF THE ROBBER, THE WOMEN VICTIMS, SUFFERING FROM THIS STRONG HALLUCINATION, SAID IT WAS MY PATIENT! IT'S A FREQUENT OCCURRENCE!

O.K.! HE CAN GO! GET HIM OUT OF HERE!

THAT NIGHT, STEVE AND BUCKY PASS AN ALLEY NEXT TO THE THEATRE.....

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN WHEN HE COMES ON THE STAGE! WE'LL BE ON OPPOSITE SIDES IN THE THEATRE!

WHAT'S THAT?

HEY! IT'S THE CROONER BEATING UP A BUNCH OF KIDS!

HE HAS A KNIFE! COME ON!

OH! HELP!

STAGE DOOR

CAP LANDS A TERRIFIC WALLOP THAT TAKES ALL THE FIGHT OUT OF THE KNIFE-WIELDER!

WHAT'S THE IDEA OF PULLING A KNIFE ON THESE KIDS?

THEY ATTACKED ME! LET ME GO!

HE'S LYING! WE ONLY ASKED HIM FOR HIS AUTOGRAPH!

THAT'S RIGHT! WE NEVER EVEN EXPECTED HIM OUT UNTIL AFTER THE SHOW!

YEAH! AND WHEN WE ASKED HIM, HE CURSED AND KICKED US! AND WE THOUGHT HE WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD! WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT HE IS!

FROM A BULLY SPEWING HATE, THE CROONER TURNS TO PLEADING!

AW! NERTZ TO HIM! NO MORE CROONERS FOR US!

PLEASE! IT'S THE EXCITEMENT OVER ALL THOSE ROBBERIES- PLEASE!

O.K. ON YOUR WAY!

I'D NEVER LET THAT GUY GET AWAY WITH THAT STUFF!

WE MUST, FOR THE TIME BEING! COME ON, LET'S GO INTO THE THEATRE!

STAGE DOOR

MEANWHILE, IN THE DRESSING ROOM OF THE CROONER'S BAND

BETTER GET THE SMELLING SALTS, DOC. THE BOSS IS GETTING READY TO SING!

WHAT A SOFT JOB DOC HAS!

HEY, DOC! DON'T YOU EVER PRACTICE ON THAT BULL FIDDLE YOU LUG AROUND WITH YOU? HA! HA!

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK LIKE A GHOST!

GETTING TOO HOT! ALMOST GOT INTO A JAM OUT-SIDE!

YEAH! BUT ONE MORE GOOD HAUL! GET OUT AND COVER ME! I'M GONNA "CASE" THE CROWD FOR "ICE"!

WHY DON'T WE QUIT? WE'VE GOT ENOUGH! YOUR LUCK CAN'T HOLD FOREVER!

MIN-UTES LATER!

LOOK THE CROONER AND IN TUX! HOW COULD HE CHANGE THAT FAST?

GOOD GOSH! HE WAS WEAR-ING HIS STREET CLOTHES ONLY THREE MINUTES AGO! COME ON!

THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER! THAT CROONER MUST BE TWO GUYS!

RIGHT, LAD! AND WE MUST FIND OUT HOW HE WORKS!

THE SHARP EYES OF CAPTAIN AMERICA DETECT A LURKING FIGURE IN THE SHADOWS OF THE OPPOSITE BOX

LOOK AT THE WOMEN IN THE AUDIENCE, SIGHING AND FAINTING!

OH! OH! I SEE MORE THAN THAT! FOLLOW ME!

WITH A WARNING SHOUT, CAP LEAPS OUT INTO SPACE, AND---

GOOD GOSH! HE SHOT THE MAN WHO TRIED TO STOP HIM!

LOOK! IT'S CAPTAIN AMERICA!

CAP FOLLOWS THE BOLD THIEF IN SWIFT PURSUIT---

HE WON'T GET FAR!

HEY, CAP, WAIT FOR ME!

MINUTES LATER, BACKSTAGE WITH THE POLICE...

HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED! ARE YOU SURE HE RAN BACK HERE?

POSITIVE! KEEP SEARCHING!

HERE COMES THE **REAL** CROONER!

I DEMAND YOU ALLOW ME TO LEAVE! I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! I WAS ON THE STAGE!

NOW NOW! NO EXCITEMENT!

THEN MAKE HIM SEE THAT WE MUST MAKE THE TRAIN! MY REPUTATION!

O.K! BUT GET HIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE I FORGET MYSELF!

LATER, AT THE STATION.

NOT EXACTLY BUT-SH-HERE THEY COME!

HOLY CATS! DON'T TELL ME THAT THE WHOLE BAND AND THE SWOONER ARE IN ON THIS!

WHAT TH-?? TWO BULL FIDDLES!

O.K, SO THE BAND HAS TWO BULL FIDDLES! SO WHAT?

AH! BUT WE SAW ONLY ONE MUSICIAN PLAY THEM!

CAP AND BUCKY LEAP ABOARD THE DEPARTING TRAIN...

MAYBE THE SECOND BULL FIDDLE IS A SPARE?

I HARDLY THINK SO! UP WE GO!

WE'LL LISTEN AT EACH COMPARTMENT DOOR UNTIL WE FIND THE ONE THE CROONER HAS!

MUST I TAKE THESE PILLS?

YES! IT WILL RELAX YOUR NERVES!

THIS IS IT! IN WE GO!

OH!

WHAT TH--! CAPTAIN AMERICA!

I NOTICED THIS BULL FIDDLE.... DON'T TELL ME, DOCTOR, THAT YOU ARE A MUSICIAN?

THAT'S RIGHT! WHY DO YOU ALWAYS CARRY IT WITH YOU?

D'YA MEAN YOU NEVER NOTICED THAT THING WITH HIM?

GOOD GRACIOUS! A REVOLVER! OH! OH!

YOU MEDDLING FOOL! GET AWAY FROM THAT CASE!

GET OVER THERE! COME ON OUT! THE CAT'S OUT OF THE BAG!

WOW! A PRETTY SLICK HIDEOUT!

YES! THAT'S HOW THEY MANAGED TO TRAVEL WITH THE BAND AND PULL THEIR ROBBERIES!

THE DOCTOR WOULD GIVE THE CROONER A PILL THAT WOULD PUT HIM TO SLEEP AND THEN THE DOUBLE WOULD GET OUT AND STRETCH!

DOUBLE IS RIGHT! HE'S A DEAD-RINGER FOR THE CROONER!

GOOD WORK, DOC! NOW WE'LL GET RID OF THESE MUGS, THEN GET OFF THE TRAIN! BY THE TIME THEY FIND THEIR BODIES, WE'LL ALL BE SAFELY OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

CAP'S ALERT MIND STALLS FOR TIME WHILE BEING BACKED INTO A CORNER BY THE THREATENING GUN!

NEVER MIND THE CROONER. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE TWO FIRST!

GOOD PLASTIC JOB, DOC! BET YOU DIDN'T DO IT!

CAP'S HAND BRUSHES THE LEVER CONTROLLING THE LOWERING OF THE UPPER BERTH!

NOPE! HA! HA! THE GUY WHO DID IT IS WHERE YOU'RE GONNA END UP TOO!

THIS'LL DO IT! MUST KEEP HIM TALKING TO GIVE ME TIME TO GET A GOOD GRIP!

AND THAT PLASTIC JOB WAS A CINCH! JUST A COUPLE OF SCARS HAD TO BE REMOVED! I ALWAYS DID LOOK LIKE THAT CROONER GUY ANYWAY. THAT'S WHAT GAVE ME THE WHOLE IDEA!

3 SUDDENLY, CAP PULLS THE LEVER AND THE HEAVY UPPER BERTH COMES LOOSE!

DOC WOULDN'T AT--HEY! WHAT TH-

GET THE GUN, BUCKY!

CAP AVOIDS THE LIGHTNING SPEED OF THE KNIFE HURLED AT HIM BY THE KILLER!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU RIGHT NOW!

A STERN RETRIBUTION OVERTAKES THE DOCTOR AS HIS PARTNERS KNIFE PIERCES HIS BODY!

UGH!

OOPS! THERE HE GOES TO THE ROOF OF THE TRAIN!

YOU'LL NEVER GET ME--OW!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

THE KILLER SCRAMBLES TO HIS FEET AND RACES TOWARD THE FRONT OF THE SPEEDING TRAIN AS CAP CLIMBS TO THE ROOF TO GIVE CHASE!

HE CAN'T GO ANY FARTHER! OH! OH! ANOTHER KNIFE!

TAKE THAT! OUCH! MY HAND!

OOPS! NOW WE'LL SEE HOW YOU CAN DO WITHOUT YOUR FAVOR-ITE WEAPON!

THE LURCHING TRAIN CAUSES CAP TO LOSE HIS BALANCE.....

HEY! WHAT TH--WOW! ANOTHER KNIFE! HE SURE CARRIES PLENTY OF THEM!

NOW, I GOT YOU! YOW!

NOT QUITE! NEVER FORGET TO WATCH A MAN'S FEET!

...OR HIS HANDS EITHER!

UGH!

LATER, THE POLICE TAKE CHARGE---

THAT ENDS THE CASE OF THE JIVE-KILLER, BUCKY!

YEP! JUST ANOTHER MUG WHO WAS "OFF THE BEAM," CAP!

CAPTAIN AMERICA

CAN A LIFELESS STATUE COMPEL A MAN TO COMMIT A CRIME? NO--? MAYBE YOU'LL THINK DIFFERENTLY WHEN YOU READ THIS STORY---

NOT ONLY DOES IT TRANSFORM A PEACEFUL, LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN INTO A RUTHLESS ROGUE, BUT IT TAXES TO THE HILT CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY, AS THE FIGHTING DUO SEEKS TO CRUSH THE MYSTERIOUS POWER WHICH DRIVES TO MADNESS THE INNOCENT MAN WHO FALLS VICTIM TO ---

"THE MONKEYS' CURSE!"

NIGHTFALL--AND IN THE HALF-SHADOWS CAST BY THE MOON OVERHEAD, A SOLITARY FIGURE TROPHIES HEAVILY THROUGH THE CITY STREETS....

WHEN SUDDENLY--

SCATTER, YOU GUYS! CAPTAIN AMERICA'S AFTER US!

AH' HE'S GOT THAT BRAT, BUCKY, WITH 'IM!

TAKE CARE OF THAT MUG, BUCKY! I'LL GRAB THE OTHER ONE---

OKAY, CAP!

HEY!

COME TO POPPA, SONNY BOY!

THIS GUY'S OUT LIKE A LIGHT! AND WHAT'S THAT HE DROPPED?

NO TIME TO INVESTIGATE NOW! WE'VE GOT TO GET THE OTHERS! COME ON!

GOSH, I'D HATE T'BE IN THOSE CROOKS' SHOES WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY AFTER ME! WAY—WHAT'S THAT LYING ON THE STREET?

SURE IS WEIRD-LOOKIN'! G-GOLLY! IT SAYS "SEE EVIL—HEAR EVIL—SPEAK EVIL!" A-AND WHAT'S THIS?

THE MONKEYS' CURSE!!

SEE EVIL—HEAR EVIL—SPEAK EVIL—THE MONKEYS SPEAK TO YOU—YOU MUST DO AS THE MONKEYS DO—

HA, HA! THE WHOLE THING'S PROBABABLY A JOKE! BUT-- BUT SUPPOSE IT ISN'T? GULP! I--I'LL TAKE IT HOME WITH ME. THEN MAYBE I'LL FORGET ABOUT IT!

BUT IN HIS DINGY DOOM, BILL SUMMERS IS UNABLE TO FORGET THE STATUE! IT HAUNTS HIM.....

THOSE LITTLE BEASTS SEEM TO BE ALIVE WATCHING ME! I CAN'T WORK, OR SLEEP, OR EAT WITH THAT BLASTED STATUE ON MY MIND!

I CAN'T STAND THE SUSPENSE! I--I'LL DO IT! I'LL COMMIT THREE EVIL DEEDS AND MAKE SURE I'M RID OF THE MONKEYS' CURSE!

MEANWHILE....

WHAT SAY, CAP? LET'S GO BACK AND TRY TO FIND THAT THING THE CROOK DROPPED!

CHECK!

AND SO WE LEAVE BILL SUMMERS, WITH HIS NEW-FOUND DETERMINATION TO BREAK THE SPELL THAT HANGS OVER HIM.

NO SIGN OF IT HERE, CAP! I GUESS SOME PASSERBY PICKED IT UP!

PROBABLY! BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW, BUCKY! LET'S HEAD FOR HOME!

THE NEXT DAY, STEVE AND BUCKY ARE AT AN ART EXHIBITION, WHEN SUDDENLY—

STOP 'IM SOMEBODY— HE'S A THIEF!

JUMPING JEHOSAPHAT—AND I THOUGHT THIS WAS GONNA BE A PULL DAY!

QUICK BUCKY—INTO THAT ANTEROOM! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A CHANGE —BUT FAST!

A SHORT SECONDS LATER...

HE'S GOT A LITTLE HEAD-START ON US—

YEAH—BUT NOT FOR LONG! YAHOO!

THERE HE IS, BUCKY! LET'S GIVE 'IM THE "HIGH-LOW" TREATMENT!

OKAY, CAP—

IT WORKS LIKE A CHARM!

TCH-TCH—THIS GUY NEEDS A BIT MORE CONVINCING, BUCKY!

LET ME GO, I TELL YA—I GOTTA GET RID OF THE MONKEY'S CURSE!

CAP AND BUCKY RELAX THEIR GRIP...

HUH? MONKEYS' CURSE?

HEY, CAP, LOOK OUT!

I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL MORE LIKE A MARATHON RUNNER EVERY MINUTE!

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN!

THE CHASE CONTINUES THROUGH THE WINDING STREETS—UNTIL FINALLY—

HEY—PUFF—PUFF—WHERE'D HE GO?

UP THAT FIRE ESCAPE! HE THINKS HE'S LOST US!

CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY FROM US WITH THAT STOLEN GOODS! BESIDES THIS MONKEYS' CURSE IS BEGINNING TO INTRIGUE ME!

MEANWHILE...

NOT BAD FOR MY FIRST ATTEMPT—NOT BAD AT ALL! NOW WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE—

NO—NO.... WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH ME? I MUSTN'T START THINKING LIKE THAT! TWO MORE CRIMES AND I'M QUITTING FOR GOOD! LET'S SEE— THE NEXT'LL BE A HOLDUP—

BUT I MUST HAVE A WEAPON, MUSTN'T I? I'VE GOT IT— I'LL MAKE ONE!

PSST—CAP! THE GUY'S CRAZY— FIRST HE TALKS TO THAT STATUE— THEN HE STARTS HACKING AWAY ON THAT PIECE OF WOOD! LET'S RUSH 'IM—

EASY, LAD! HE MAY BE CRAZY BUT WHAT HE'S DOING NOW MAKES SOME SENSE— THAT'S A WOODEN GUN HE'S CARVING! JUST SIT TIGHT 'TIL I GIVE THE WORD!

ANXIOUS MINUTES PASS BY— THEN SUMMERS LEAVES—

THERE—THAT'LL DO! TWO MORE CRIMES AND I'M FREE OF THAT STATUE'S SPELL!

NOW, BUCKY—WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST! WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE HIM!

GOSH! I WISH I KNEW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!

A STATUE OF THREE MONKEYS—ONLY IT'S THE **REVERSE** OF THE USUAL KIND! SOMEHOW IT SEEMS FAMILIAR—OH—OH! HERE'S SOMETHING THAT MAY BE A CLUE TO THE WHOLE THING—

WELL—WELL SO THAT'S WHAT'S BEHIND ALL THIS, EH?

IT'S STILL GREEK TO ME, CAP!

JEEPERS, CAP! WILL YOU **PLEASE** BREAK DOWN AND EXPLAIN WHAT COOKS?

SOON, BUCKY! I JUST REMEMBERED WHERE I SAW THAT STATUE BEFORE—IN **THE STORE THOSE CROOKS TRIED TO ROB LAST NIGHT!**

GET A WIGGLE ON, BUCKY! WE'VE GOT TO INTERCEPT OUR FRIEND BEFORE HE GOES COMPLETELY HAYWIRE!

OKAY, OKAY! I'M COMING!

MEANWHILE, STILL INTENT ON CARRYING OUT HIS PLAN, SUMMERS SOON SEES HIS OPPORTUNITY.....

REALLY, LOUISE, YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW HARD IT IS TO GET ALONG WITH JUST FOUR OR FIVE SERVANTS!

IT'S TEDDIBLY DIFFICULT, MY DEAR!

THESE TWO SOUND RIPE FOR A HOLDUP— **HERE GOES!**

OKAY, LADIES—THIS IS A STICKUP! LET'S HAVE YOUR MONEY AND THOSE NECKLACES YOU'RE WEARIN'—

EEK!

THERE HE IS BUCKY! AND FROM THE WAY HE OPERATES, I'D SAY, HE'S A RANK AMATEUR!

YAHOO!

C-C-CAPTAIN AMERICA!

IN PERSON!

AAAARGH!

HE'S ALL YOURS, CAP!

YOU FOOL! YOU CAN'T STOP ME NOW—I'VE STILL GOT ONE MORE CRIME TO COMMIT!

AND I SAY YOUR CRIME CAREER IS OVER!

A SUDDEN THRUST BY SUNBEAM AND...

OOF!

OOOO— POOR LITTLE BUCKY! HE'LL BE KILLED!

TAKE IT EASY, MA'AM— THAT REVOLVER'S JUST A PHONY!

PERSONALLY, I DON'T TAKE MUCH STOCK IN "CURSES", BUT YOU EVIDENTLY DO! WHAT'S THE STORY, CHUM?

WELL, IT'S THIS WAY...

SUMMERS TELLS CAP ALL ....!

BUT EVEN IF THERE WERE A CURSE, YOU'VE ALREADY COMMITTED THREE CRIMES! TAKING THE STATUE IN THE FIRST PLACE AND NOT TURNING IT OVER TO THE POLICE WAS THE FIRST ONE!

CAP— LOOK!

"MADE BY THE AJAX NOVELTY CO"! WHY, THE WHOLE THING IS JUST A SILLY GAG!

"MADE BY AJAX NOVELTY COMPANY"

WELL, SUMMERS— STILL BELIEVE IN "CURSES"?

I MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE... LETTING A STATUE MAKE A MONKEY OUT OF ME!

ALL THE STATUE MEANT WAS THAT TO SEE EVIL, HEAR EVIL AND SPEAK EVIL IS TO COMMIT THREE EVIL DEEDS! JUST REMEMBER THAT, SUMMERS, AND YOU'LL NEVER GO WRONG!

DON'T WORRY, CAPTAIN AMERICA! I'LL NEVER BELIEVE IN SIGNS AGAIN!

by Jack Cole

DATE WITH DANGER

LARRY looked at his watch and pushed harder on the gas pedal. He was late and wanted to reach Joe's Diner on time. Buck and Willie would be there and they'd gas about baseball and the weather. The huge Diesel pulled the towering trailer with ease, loaded as it was. Larry knew it was a valuable cargo he had aboard tonight; furs, going from the processing plant to the cutters at Bigville.

He rolled around the curve at the foot of Bald Mount, hugging the wall, and fed a little air to the brakes. As he slowed, his lights picked up a car just clinging to the outside shoulder. Larry hit the brakes harder and brought the load to a stop.

He climbed down from the high cab and ran over to the car, examining it as he ran. There were no bodies around so he thought that if anyone had been hurt, they'd still be in the car. Larry, coming up to the car, wrenched open the door.

"All right, sucker, get your mitts up!" barked the occupant. "Back off a little 'til I get out of this mousetrap!"

Larry backed off, his mind in a whirl. For seven years he had driven, and until now, had never run into any of these highway pirates. He had a gun in the cab that the company insisted on his carrying and knowing how to use, but that was in the cab. His mind scurried over the possibilities of the situation but came up no plan. He'd just have to wait for a chance. The crook prodded him with the gun.

"Just stand still for a minute, chump," he rasped, turning. "Joe you take the heap back to the hangout. I'll ride with this guy here!"

"Okay, Froggy. I'll be there waiting," said his helper whom Larry hadn't seen. "If that monkey tries anything, chill 'im and take it in yourself!"

Joe pulled away in the car and Froggy urged Larry toward the truck with the gun. Larry's thoughts whirled round and round. His best chance lay in grabbing the company gun as soon as he got in the cab and blasting Froggy when he climbed in the other side. It had a good chance ... he'd do it.

Larry pulled a little ahead and, swinging up on the step, reached for the door handle. It was a cinch! He had the door open, when ....

"Just a minute, there, buddy!" growled his captor. "You're a little too anxious to suit me! Stand there where I can keep an eye on you!"

Froggy grabbed the door-handle and heaved up into the cab. Larry's heart leaped! The crook was searching the glove compartment and behind the seats but he wouldn't find the gun. It was clipped under the dashboard. Froggy, with a last look around, started to slide out. His pants-leg caught on something and, with a blistering string of oaths, he yanked at the cloth. It held stubbornly and the hijacker reached under to get it loose. He groped blindly, then, with a nasty snarl, pulled out the company gun! A rod in each hand, he dropped down and slapped Larry on the head with a gun-butt. Larry shook his head groggily and reached for Froggy. Another blow to the same spot sent white flashes through his eyes. Froggy stepped back.

"You're one of those wise guys, huh?" he barked. "Little boys like you are liable to get hurt playing with these things! Now—get up there and don't make any mistakes or you'll wind up in a ditch and I'll take it in! Get goin'!"

Minutes later, Larry peered out at the blurred swath his lights cut into the night. He rubbed his eyes, then checked the fuel gauge. Needed more oil. Well, he'd get it at Joe's, but ... no, not much chance of getting help there. The maniac beside him would shoot him and probably some of his buddies if he tried anything. Better to play it straight. Still, it was a shame that ... wait a minute! Could it be done? Larry turned it over, thinking of all the possibilities, then made his decision.

"We need gas, Froggy," said Larry. "I don't enjoy your company enough to want to get stuck out on the road with you!"

"Don't be a smart aleck, greaseball!" replied his gun-happy rider. "There's a diner up here with a pump out front. When we get there, just keep your nose clean and nobody'll get hurt!"

The big trailer crunched into the area in front of the brightly-lit diner. Larry saw Willie's big gas job parked at the far end and Buck just getting out of his cab.

"Hiya, Larry. Let's get out of there and put on the feed bag," bawled Willie. "I'm gonna tell yuh why the Dodgers lost the pennant!"

"I'll see yuh later, Willie. I've got to gas up first," Larry said weakly. He felt Froggy tense up beside him, then relax.

"Same thing, Larry?" said Slim, the kid that manned the pump, unscrewing the cap on the big tank.

"Yeh—uh—no! Put in thirty, and make sure it's good gas, Slim!" Larry yelled, leaning out to look down at the kid. Slim looked up, startled.

"Best gas ...! You crazy? Why this is a ..." faltered Slim.

"Never mind the lip, smart guy!" barked Larry. "You just do what I said. I know what I'm doing!"

"You're the boss, mister." Slim said weakly. "Thirty gallons of gas you want ... thirty gallons you get!"

Slim finished and tightened the cap back on the tank. Larry tramped on the starter and the big high-compression Diesel caught and settled into a steady beat. Larry rolled out onto the highway, keeping it in low for a couple hundred yards before he shifted. Froggy was nervously looking into the rear-view mirror on his side.

"C'mon, grandma, let's go!" he growled. "We haven't got all night!"

Larry settled lower in the seat. Froggy was peering out, trying to see past the area lit up by the big lights. They roared on through the night, the big Diesel hammering away. Larry squirmed. If anything happened, it had to happen pretty soon.

The truck was roaring toward a curve when ...Baroooom! Larry was blinded by the white flare. The engine seemed to leap through the hood and Larry saw pistons and parts fly through the glare. The truck rocked from shoulder to shoulder and finally came to a screeching stop on the side of the road. Larry looked over at Froggy, out cold on the seat. He had a jagged cut on the side of his head. Larry jumped down, just as a motorcycle cop came roaring up, with Willie and Buck riding on the running-board of a truck right behind him.

"What happened, Larry? Are you okay?" roared Buck. "I knew something was wrong when you took off without coming in. Then Slim told me you took a load of gas and nearly bit his head off! What's the score?"

Larry reached up and dragged the gunslick down, pushing him into the cop's arms.

"I was really in a jam, boys!" answered Larry. "This punk had me every way! I couldn't think of anything 'til I hit the gas station and ... seeing the gas pump reminded me of what high octane gas can do to a high-compression Diesel engine! As soon as the fuel oil ran out, the gas went in there and blew it all to ... well, you can see it!"

THE END

STOP

Losing Your Chances for Dates

BECAUSE PIMPLES, BLACKHEADS AND BLEMISHES EXTERNALLY CAUSED SPOIL YOUR LOOKS!

No magic about this. No harmful drugs. No miracles. It's all up to you and YOUR DESIRE FOR A CLEAR, LOVELY SMOOTH SKIN.

PLANNED BY DOCTOR

A recognized practicing physician has prepared a special plan for clearing externally caused skin blemishes, known as the "VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN." In it, a 100% pure vegetable oil, skin cream —VITE is used each day . . . that's all!

OPPORTUNITY IS YOURS

With the VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN, thousands of women have cleared their externally caused pimples, blackheads and skin blemishes. It's so easy . . . that a few weeks from today, you won't believe your mirror!

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

By mailing the coupon below you may confidently step out on the road to a beautiful skin, free of externally caused blemishes, pimples and blackheads . . . at NO RISK! For only $1.00 get a trial size of VITE skin cream, and the VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN. If you aren't happily surprised, your money will be refunded.

$1.00 TRIAL SIZE

$2.00 LARGE ECONOMY SIZE

MAIL COUPON

AMERICAN SKIN LABORATORY Dept. CN-1
873 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

Send me a jar of VITE face cream and the doctor's "VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN." My money will be refunded if I am not satisfied.

☐ I enclose $2.00 send the large economy size postage prepaid.
☐ I enclose $1.00 send the trial size postage prepaid.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

A Slimmer Lovelier YOU In Just 30 Days!

LOSE 8 to 10 lbs. in one month

No exercise — not a laxative

Just follow the simple scientific directions of Dr. Phillips Reducing Plan! In just 30 days look in the mirror and see the amazing difference!

GIVEN WITH ORDER:

With your order you are given a 30 day supply of KELPIDINE (kona) for use as part of your breakfast. There is medical authority that KELPIDINE (kona) has been used as an anti-fat, and as an aid to reducing.

SATISFIED USERS SAY:

"I lost 12 lbs. in a few weeks!" Mrs. J. P., Jacksonville, Florida.

"I lost 10½ lbs. feel young and work better!" Mrs. E. V., Bronx, N. Y.

"I went from a size 20 down to a size 16." Mrs. N. C., Park Ridge, N. J.

"Used the $2.00 size. I lost 10 pounds already." Mrs. M. D., Newton, N. J.

AMERICAN HEALTHAIDS CO., Dept. CN-1
852 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

Please send to obtain weight a supply of KELPIDINE and Dr. Phillips Reducing Plan. My money will be refunded if I am not satisfied.

☐ I enclose $2.00, send 3 months' supply postage prepaid.
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Name _____

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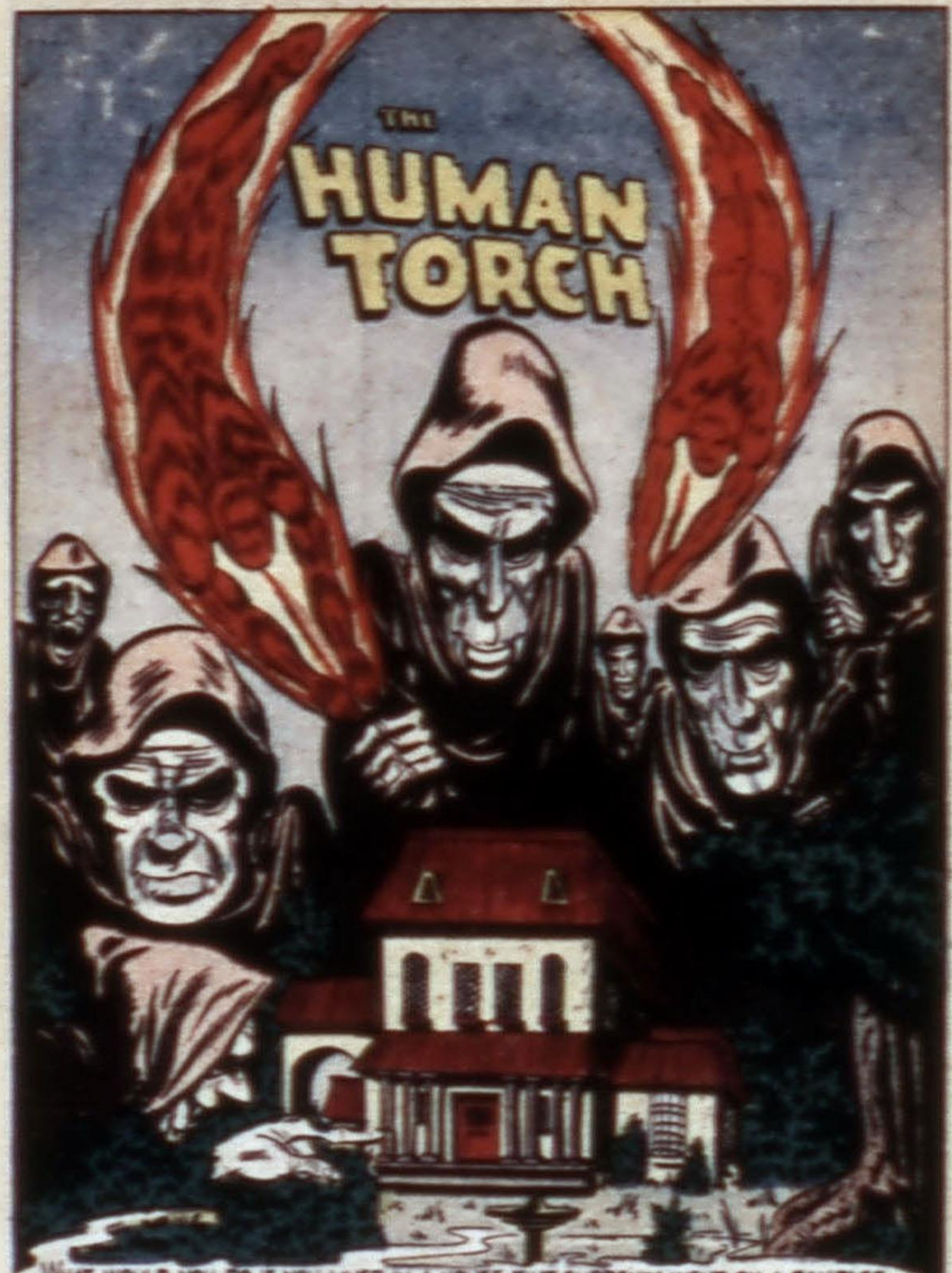
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE



WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU LIVED IN A HOUSE THAT SUDDENLY WENT ON A RAMPAGE OF CHANGING COLORS? YOU'D SCREAM IN TERROR! THAT'S WHAT THE HORRIFIED INHABITANTS DID IN THIS WEIRD HOUSE! IN FACT, ONE DIED - A STRANGE, GRISLY MURDER! TURN THE PAGE AND WALK INTO THIS BIZARRE BUILDING OF PERILOUS PRANKS - ALONG WITH THAT DARING DUO, ***TORCH AND TORO*** -- AS THEY SET OUT ALONG A MYSTERY-SHROUDED DANGER-TRAIL TO SMASH THE MADCAP, MURDEROUS CASE OF

"THE HOUSE THAT HAUNTS"

ONE NIGHT, TORCH AND TORO RECEIVE A HARRIED VISITOR--

I'M AMOS GRAYSON--I NEED HELP! I OWN AN APARTMENT HOUSE AND TERRIBLE THINGS ARE HAPPENING THERE! THINGS KEEP CHANGING COLORS--THE CARPETING, PICTURES, EVERYTHING! THE HOUSE MUST BE HAUNTED!

I'M CERTAIN THERE MUST BE SOME LOGICAL EXPLANATION AT THE BOTTOM OF IT, TORO. WE'LL INVESTIGATE!

SOUNDS INTERESTING!

SOON--

HERE IT IS!

LOOKS O.K. FROM HERE--NOTHING HAUNTED ABOUT--FLAMING FLAMINGOES! THAT LIGHT OVER THE DOOR! IT--IT'S CHANGING!

THERE! YOU SAW! AND BEFORE, THAT SAME LIGHT CHANGED TO BRIGHT GREEN! OH--WHAT'S THAT?

HELP! HELP!

NOW WHAT?

THIS PORTRAIT WAS A PERFECT LIKENESS OF ME--AND LOOK AT IT NOW! THOSE TERRIBLE COLORS! I'LL SUE THE BUILDING--YOU, MR. GRAYSON!

BUT--IT'S NOT MY FAULT!

TAKE IT EASY, MADAM! WE'LL FIND OUT JUST WHAT'S IN BACK OF THIS! TORO, WE'RE GOING TO CALL ON EVERY-ONE IN THIS HOUSE! WE'LL START WITH APT. 1A!

WHAT NOW? OPEN UP! WHO LIVES IN HERE?

DR. MARSHALL! HE HAS HIS OFFICE AND APARTMENT COMBINED! VERY NICE TENANT! WHAT COULD BE HAPPENING?

CRASH!

DR. MARSHALL! WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?

A STATUE IN MY RECEPTION ROOM SUDDENLY STARTED WALKING, THEN TOPPLED OVER! I COULD HARDLY BELIEVE MY EYES! I'M AFRAID TO GO NEAR IT NOW!

A WALKING STATUE? WELL, TAKE A LOOK AT IT!

WHILE IN THE NEXT ROOM--

THE DOC'S KEEPING THOSE TWO SNOOPERS BUSY WITH THAT STATUE STORY! THIS'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO GET AWAY--

YEH! BEFORE THEY GET ANY IDEAS TO LOOK AROUND!

AS THE TRUSS RUN DOWN A PASSAGEWAY--

WHAT COULD HAVE MADE IT DO SUCH AN AMAZING THING? FIND ANYTHING?

NO! I CAN'T SEE ANY EXPLANATION FOR-- MMM-m WHO ARE THOSE CHARACTERS IN SUCH A HURRY? I'M GOING TO CHECK UP! FLAME, TORO!

IN FLASH SECONDS, TORCH AND TORO PURSUE THE SUSPICIOUS MEN IN FLIGHT--

LET HIM HAVE IT, SLUG!

SUNMEN! NOW I KNOW WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK! LOOK! THAT GIRL WALKED INTO THE LINE OF FIRE!

SEEING THEIR ADVANTAGE, THE SUNMEN SEND MORE DEATH-DEALING LEAD!

I'LL STOP THESE BULLETS! GO AFTER THEM, TORO!

BUT--THE NEXT MOMENT--

GOT YOU, SQUIRT!

OOOPS! (GURGLE)

THE BULLET-BARRAGE SHIFTS ITS TARGET TO THE FALLING TORCH AND--

GOT YOU IN TIME! ALL RIGHT, KID?

YES-- BUT--

OF ALL THE BAD BREAKS! THOSE THUGS MADE AWAY IN A CAR!

TOUGH LUCK, BUT IT COULDN'T BE HELPED! YOUNG LADY, YOU WERE HEADED TO THE APARTMENT HOUSE! LIVE THERE, OR VISITING SOMEONE?

I'M STOPPING BY TO SEE MY FIANCE BOB DUNCAN! I'M SURE BOB WILL BE AS GRATEFUL AS I AM FOR YOUR SAVING MY LIFE!

BOB DUNCAN? ISN'T HE THE ACE NEWS REPORTER-PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE DAILY BULLETIN?

THAT'S RIGHT! OH, BY THE WAY, LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF-- I'M AMY LYNN!

WE'LL GO WITH YOU, MISS LYNN! WE INTEND SEEING EVERYONE IN THE HOUSE ANYWAY! MAYBE DUNCAN CAN GIVE US A LEAD!

THE DUNCAN APARTMENT--NO. 2A--

OH! BOB! BOB! IS HE--?

YES, HE'S DEAD! HIS FACE AND HANDS ARE BADLY SEARED! THAT MUST'VE BEEN THE CAUSE OF HIS DEATH!

TORCH! LOOK AT THOSE PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES!

THESE ARE ALL CHARRED TOO! COMPLETELY DESTROYED IN SOME WAY! MM, MAYBE DUNCAN WAS WORKING ON A STORY, AND FOUND OUT TOO MUCH! MISS LYNN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE COULD HAVE BEEN WORKING ON?

NO! BOB NEVER CONFIDED ABOUT HIS WORK! HE NEVER TALKED UNTIL IT WAS DONE! PERHAPS HIS EDITOR MIGHT KNOW!

TORCH PHONES THE BULLETIN, AND--

BOB WAS ON THE TRAIL OF A BLACKMAIL RING! HE SAID HE HAD SOME PHOTO PLATES THAT, AS SOON AS HE DEVELOPED THEM, WOULD CLINCH THE CASE! THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

POOR DUNCAN NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO DEVELOP THEM! I'M GETTING MORE IDEAS ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED!

CITY EDITOR

THE NEXT NIGHT, TOM SEES TO SEARCH FINISHED--

YOU SAY WE'RE LOOKING FOR A WIRING ARRANGE-MENT?

HERE IT IS--RIGHT IN THE DARK ROOM! AH, THIS ELECTRICAL SET-UP LEADS TO THE APARTMENT BELOW WHICH IS DR. MARSHALL'S! THIS CALLS FOR ANOTHER VISIT TO HIM! COME ON, LAD!

THERE'S MR. GRAYSON!

I LOST ANOTHER TENANT, DR. MARSHALL'S LEFT!

MY GUESS IS HE TOOK A RUN-OUT POWDER! BUT WE'LL SEARCH HIS PLACE ANYWAY, TORO! OH, GRAYSON, CALL THE POLICE! TELL THEM TO GO TO APT. 2A--DUNCAN'S BEEN MURDERED!

SOON, IN MARSHALL'S OFFICE--

THIS IS DIRECTLY BELOW DUNCAN'S DARK ROOM! THE WIRE MUST RUN FROM THE VENTILATOR THROUGH THAT CEILING PIPE, AND INTO--AH, HERE THIS PANEL SOUNDS HOLLOW! WE'LL USE FINGER FLAMES TO BURN IT OFF!

HERE'S THE ANSWER! POWERFUL X-RAY TUBES! WHEN SWITCHED ON, THE SUPER-RAY BURNED THOSE PLATES AS WELL AS DUNCAN! HE PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HAD STRUCK AND RAN OUT OF THE DARK ROOM IN HIS DEATH THROES!

GOSH, NO WONDER THE PAINTINGS AND LIGHTS CHANGED COLOR ALL OVER THE HOUSE! THE INDIRECT REACTION OF X-RAY! AT LEAST WE KNOW HOW IT WAS DONE!

THE LAST THEY'LL KNOW!

A LIGHTNING SECOND LATER--

I CAME BACK JUST IN TIME! YOU BRIGHT BUSYBODIES FOUND OUT SO MUCH, YOU'D BE LIKELY TO TRACK ME DOWN IF YOU LIVED! FORTUNATELY FOR ME, YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!

CRASH

NOW I'LL POUR THIS ZONO-CHEMICAL AND IT WILL PREVENT THEM FROM FLAMING! BEFORE THEY COME TO, THEY'LL FIND THEMSELVES LOCKED IN METAL TUBES!

NO AIR! LET US OUT!

YOUR MISERY WILL SOON BE OVER! I'M SETTING A TIME-BOMB TO GO OFF IN 10 MINUTES!

I HEAR SIRENS OUTSIDE--THE POLICE! I'LL SLIP OUT A REAR WINDOW!

AS THE CUNNING MEDICO MAKES HIS FURTIVE ESCAPE--

NO USE! CAN'T FLAME-- CAN'T GET OUT!

MAYBE WE CAN ATTRACT SOME ATTENTION--WITH LUCK! THOSE SIRENS WE JUST HEARD--THE POLICE SHOULD BE PASSING THE DOOR IN A MOMENT, LAD. WE'VE GOT TO TRY TIPPING THIS CYLINDER! IT'S OUR ONE AND ONLY CHANCE!

WITH DESPERATE STRENGTH, THE CAPTIVE PAIR PRESSES AGAINST THE METAL SIDE--

UPSTAIRS, MEN! LA! WAIT! WHAT'S THAT NOISE? ANOTHER INTRUDER?

OH! THAT SOUNDS LIKE WHAT TORCH AND TORC AND I HEARD WHEN THE STATUE WALKED!

A WALKING STATUE! SARGE, BEFORE WE GO UP, WE OUGHT TO LOOK IN HERE!

ANYONE IN HERE?

YES! TORCH AND TORC! WE'RE TRAPPED! THERE'S A TIME-BOMB SET! FOLLOW THE TOXINS--AND DETONATE IT--QUICK!

IN SPLIT SECONDS--

EVERYTHING'S O.K. NOW! I PULLED OUT THE FUSE! BUT HOW DID THIS ALL HAPPEN?

IT COULD BE A LONG STORY, SERGEANT, BUT I'LL MAKE IT SHORT BECAUSE WE HAVE TO CATCH UP WITH A RING OF MURDERERS!

AS TORCH FINISHES HIS EXPLANATION--

SO THAT X-RAY BUSINESS DESTROYED THE PHOTOS AND SEARED DUNCAN TO DEATH! A DEVILISH BUSINESS! BUT WE DON'T HAVE A LEAD TO MARSHALL AND HIS GANG! THEY DIDN'T LEAVE A SINGLE PAPER!

GRAYSON, WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT GIRL AMY LYNN?

RIGHT AFTER YOU WENT IN HERE, SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING HOME. THE POOR GIRL WAS SO SHAKEN UP ABOUT HER YOUNG MAN'S DEATH!

AH, HERE'S HER ADDRESS --- FLAME UP, TORCH! WE'RE CALLING ON HER!

SHORT MINUTES LATER, IN THE HOME OF AMY LYNN--

BY NOW WE'RE RID OF TORCH AND TORO--AND NO-ONE WILL DREAM OF SUSPECTING YOU, AMY! NICE WORK, GETTING DUNCAN TO FALL FOR YOU!

--AND SPILL ALL ABOUT HIS INCRIMINATING PHOTOS OF YOU SUPS COLLECTING BLACKMAIL DOUGH!

THAT WAS SOMETHIN', TOO, AMY, THE WAY YOU KEPT TORCH AND TORO FROM CHASING US BY GETTING INTO THE WAY OF OUR BULLETS! ONLY WE WAS FIRING BLANKS AT YOU AND THEY DIDN'T KNOW! HA! HA! WHA--?

NOW WE KNOW EVERYTHING! HA-HA-HA!

THE TORCH! ALIVE!

THEY'RE ALL YOURS NOW, SERGEANT! NEVER MIND CALLING THE WAGON! WE CAN MARCH THIS BUNCH TO THE STATION--JUST LIKE THIS!

FINE WORK, TORCH!

LATER--

NOW WE GOT IT ALL! MARSHALL NORMED SECRETS FROM HIS PATIENTS, THEN USED THEM FOR BLACKMAIL PURPOSES--BUT HOW DID YOU GET WISE TO AMY LYNN?

YES--HOW, TORCH?

MARSHALL'S RETURN TO HIS OFFICE TO TRAP US! SOMEONE MUST'VE TIPPED HIM OFF! WE WERE HEP ONLY GRAYSON AND AMY KNEW! I FELT GRAYSON WAS ON THE LEVEL, SO THAT LEFT ONLY AMY--AND THAT LEAVES HER A NUMBER IN TORSO'S GALLERY!

THE END

LET'S PLAY

DETECTIVE

STARRING DETECTIVE MIKE TROY

PASSPORT TO MURDER

"WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO BRING YOU A NEWS BULLETIN... 'RED' LACY... OWNER OF THE FAMOUS GOLDEN DICE NIGHTCLUB HAS BEEN FOUND MURDERED! ...SHOT ONCE THROUGH THE HEAD... POLICE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR 'EYES' SKYLER AND EARL SACHETT ...BOTH MEN, FORMER GUNMEN, HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO HAVE IT 'IN' FOR LACY, FOR A FORMER DOUBLE-CROSS WHEN ALL THREE WERE IN THE NUMBERS RACKET MANY YEARS AGO..."

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

I'M EARL SACHETT... I JUST ARRIVED FROM CUBA. I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE LOOKING FOR ME!

THAT WE ARE!

MIKE... SACHETT HAS JUST WALKED IN... AND THE TELETYPE INFORMS ME THAT 'EYES' SKYLER HAS JUST BEEN PICKED UP IN A MOUNTAIN HIDEAWAY!

GOOD! NOW FOR A QUESTIONING SESSION!

SKYLER IS QUESTIONED...

BUT I WAS OUT OF TOWN... FISHING... WHEN LACY WAS KILLED... I HAVEN'T LOOKED AT A PAPER FOR DAYS AND DIDN'T KNOW ALL THIS HAPPENED TILL I WAS PICKED UP!

SACHETT TALKS...

YOU CAN'T PIN THIS ON ME... I JUST GOT INTO NEW YORK. I WAS IN CUBA WHEN LACY WAS BUMPED OFF!

I CAN PROVE IT... HERE'S MY PASSPORT... THAT WILL VERIFY EVERYTHING!

YOU CAN PUT THAT PASSPORT AWAY... WITHOUT LOOKING AT IT, I KNOW IT IS FORGED AND THAT YOU KILLED LACY!

LATER...

YES... I KILLED HIM... BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?... AND THAT I HAD THE PASSPORT FORGED?

[illegible] TRAVEL TO [illegible] A PASSPORT IS NOT [illegible] AS A U.S. CITIZEN [illegible] LOOKED ONE THING [illegible] ALIBI... YOU ONCE- [illegible] TO ESTABLISH AN [illegible] YOU MADE TOO QUICK

POLIC HEADQ

TURN PAGE UPSIDE DOWN FOR SOLUTION!

NOW YOU CAN BE THE EDITOR!

THE THINGS I LIKE ABOUT THE CAPTAIN AMERICA MAGAZINE ARE:

THE THINGS I DISLIKE ABOUT THE CAPTAIN AMERICA MAGAZINE ARE:

IF I WERE EDITOR I WOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

KIDS, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE EDITOR OF THIS MAGAZINE! FILL OUT THE COUPON BELOW AND MAIL IT **TODAY!** THEN YOU WILL GET MORE OF YOUR FAVORITE STORIES AND LESS OF THOSE YOU DON'T LIKE!

IF YOU SEND IN ONE OF THE 50 NEATEST AND MOST INTERESTING COUPONS THE PUBLISHERS OF... CAPTAIN AMERICA WILL SEND YOU A CRISP NEW ONE DOLLAR BILL

SO FILL OUT THIS COUPON AND MAIL IT TODAY TO:
STAN LEE ROOM 1407
350 5TH AVE.
NEW YORK 1, NEW YORK
DEPT. C.A.-57

CAPTAIN AMERICA

STEP RIGHT UP, FOLKS, AND SEE THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH! LEND AN EAR TO OLD DOC SPIEL AS HE TALKS HIMSELF INTO A HEAP OF TROUBLE! AND WHEN DOC STARTS YAPPING- THEN CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WARN THE PUBLIC TO

"BEWARE THE MEDICINE MAN!"

COME ONE—COME ALL! FREE SHOW TODAY! SEE THE GREATEST VENTRILOQUIST ACT IN THE WORLD!

H'YA, RUM-NOSE! WHAT'S COOKING?

YOU, OVER A SLOW FLAME, IF YOU DON'T HAVE A LITTLE RESPECT FOR YOUR ELDERS!

HAW!

HA HA!

WHAT'RE YA BLAMING ME FOR? YOU PUT THE WORDS IN MY MOUTH!

QUIET, BEFORE I SLICE YOU UP INTO A BOX OF TOOTH-PICKS!

OKAY, WISE-GUY, GO ON AND DO THE ACT BY YOURSELF!

WAAL, IT'LL BE—THET DUMMY IS MOVIN' BY HISSELF!

YES, IT IS A VERY LIVE LITTLE BOY IN MAKE-UP! SOMETIMES IT'S FUN TO BE FOOLED!

THAT'S A GOOD ONE!

HA! HA!

SURE FOOLED ME!

BUT FRIENDS, IT ISN'T FUNNY IF YOU'RE FOOLING YOURSELF! ARE YOU A DUMMY OR ARE YOU ALIVE? ARE YOU LIVING FULLY OR ARE YOU HALF DEAD WITH ACHES AND PAINS?

FRIENDS, HERE IT IS—THIS BOTTLE OF HEALING HERBS! ITS SECRET WAS IMPARTED TO ME BY THAT FAMOUS INDIAN MEDICINE MAN, CHIEF ATOROOBLESSYOU!

DO YOU SUFFER FROM KNOCK-KNEES? THIS REMEDY WILL STRAIGHTEN THEM OUT! YES, FRIENDS, DRINK THIS AND LIVE!

DO I ASK $100 FOR THIS GREAT MEDICINE? $50? NO! I AM A BENEFACTOR OF MANKIND! FOR ONE SINGLE DOLLAR YOU PURCHASE EVERLASTING HEALTH!

I'LL TAKE ONE, DOC!

SAVE ONE FOR ME!

HURRY, WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS! THANK YOU, FRIENDS!

FEAR THE TOWN CONSTABLE!

SORRY, FRIENDS—NO MORE THAN A NUMBER OF PURCHASES TO A TOWN! ER—FAREWELL AND GOOD HEALTH!

LATER...

HE SOLD 20 BOTTLES OF THE COLORED WATER, POP!

NOW HE CAN PURCHASE A NEW SUIT FOR YOU! AH, THIS IS THE LIFE—THE OPEN ROAD AND MY SON BESIDE ME! EGAD, TOMMY BOY, LIFE IS GOOD!

BANTAM, IN A BUSY CITY...

GOT THE NY-TOWN HERALD?

YESSIR!

SUDDENLY, A COLORFUL FIGURE LANDS AT THE TRUCK

THE LAW IS LOOKING FOR YOU, JIB BAKER!

CAPTAIN AMERICA!

YOU WOULDN'T REALLY SHOOT ONE IN THE BACK, WOULD YOU?

THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP ME!

A

BUS STOP

HOW ABOUT A BUS STOP?

SUDDENLY...

WHA...?

OOF!

WHAT A BREAK! LET'S ROLL!

GASP! GASP!

WOW!

A MOMENT LATER...

OOOH! I WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT FOR A WEEK!

NEWSIE, LET ME HAVE THE MYTOWN HERALD!

YESSIR!

SCANNING THE PAPER FOR A CONNECTING LINK, CAP FINDS AN ITEM IN THE PERSONAL COLUMN.....

PERSONALLY-
BAKER, RUMMEL PROSPECTS GOOD HERE. COME AT ONCE.
EL

WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS PROSPECTS, I WONDER? I'LL MAKE IT MY BUSINESS TO FIND OUT!

ALL ROADS LEAD TO MYTOWN... A LITTLE VILLAGE WHERE BIG THINGS ARE ABOUT TO POP!

THERE IT IS, BUCKY? OUR TARGET FOR TONIGHT!

EGAD, PERHAPS YOU'D BEST BE FILLING SOME BOTTLES, TOMMY!

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW, EH, JIG?

LATER...

NOW WHO WILL BE THE FIRST TO BUY A BOTTLE OF HEALTH!

I'LL TAKE ONE!

AH' NOW I'M ARRESTIN' YOU FER SELLIN' PHONEY MEDICINE!

GULP!

LATER...

YOU CAN'T TELL ME WHO PLACED THE AD IN THE HERALD?

HOPE! AD CAME TO TH' HERALD BY MAIL DOLLAR BILL INSIDE TO PAY FER IT! NO NAME...NO ADDRESS.

AS CAP AND BUCKY LEAVE, THEY PASS BY THE COURTROOM AND HEAR....

AND THE COURT FINDS YOU AN UNFIT PARENT! IT DEMANDS THIS HERE YOUNG 'UN BECOME A WARD OF THE CITY'S HOME FER CHILDREN!

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE MY SON AWEY FROM ME? NO!

GOLLY!

HE WON'T EFFEN YOU KIN GIT YERSELF A HONEST JOB!

A J-JOB? EGAD, THAT'S AN UGLY WORD! HOWEVER, NO SACRIFICE IS TOO GREAT FOR MY SON!

YOUR HONOR, IF I GIVE THIS MAN EMPLOYMENT, WOULD YOU PUT THE BOY IN MY CUSTODY, TILL MR. SPIEL PROVES HIMSELF?

ANYTHING YOU SAY, MR. LAMONT!

I HAVE A SMALL LODGE ON MY ESTATE YOU TWO CAN LIVE IN!

EGAD, SIR, YOU'RE A GENTLEMAN! WE'RE INDEBTED TO YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY AND ...ER... JOB!

LATER—A DESERTED SHACK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE VILLAGE....

NICE HIDEOUT! WHAT'S THE DEAL, STALK?

AN ALUMINUM PLANT OWNED BY A BIRD NAMED LAMONT!! I FIGURED WE'D CRACK THE PAYROLL SAFE!

I JUST COME FROM TOWN... I HEARD THINGS--A PITCHMAN JUST GOT A JOB AS NIGHT WATCHMAN IN LAMONT'S PLANT! NOW THIS GUY'S GOT A KID, AND.....

THE NEXT DAY....

HEY, BUD, I GOTTA TELL YOU ABOUT YOUR KID...WE TOOK A RIDE TOGETHER!

THAT'S NEIGHBORLY OF YOU, SIR! EGAD, THAT LAD OF MINE MAKES FRIENDS EASILY!

YOU KIDNAPPED HIM? BUT YOU'VE MADE A MISTAKE! I HAVE NO MONEY!

UH-HUH! I GOT SO ATTACHED TO HIM, I'M GONNA KEEP HIM FER AWHILE... UNLESS YOU WANTA BUY HIM OFF!

MONEY AIN'T EVERYTHING, PAL! IF YOU LET ME AND MY GANG INTO THE PLANT, YOUR KID COMES BACK...WALKING!

OTHERWISE YOU'D...KILL HIM? MY DEAR BOY... TOMMY!

AH, SPIEL! WE'RE HOLDING OUR AUCTION TODAY... PROCEEDS TO GO TO CHARITY--YOU COULD SERVE AS OFFICIAL AUCTIONEER--EVEN CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY ARE OFFERING THEIR SERVICES!

CAPTAIN AMERICA! PERHAPS HE CAN HELP ME!

BUT, AS LAMONT LEAVES.....

DON'T FIGURE ON SPILLIN' TO CAP AMERICA, 'CAUSE I'M GONNA STICK CLOSER TO YOU THAN A MUSTARD PLASTER! ONE WRONG MOVE AND MY BOYS USE A TOMMY GUN ON YOUR TOMMY BOY!

LATER, ATOP THE DUMMY DECK OF A "BATTLESHIP" BEDECKED IN GAY BUNTING AND COLORED FLAGS, DOC SPIEL HAS BEEN TALKING... BUT NOT OUT OF TURN!

HEE! HEE!

HAW!

HA! HA!

SOLD! THIS BATHTUB TO THE DIRTY GENTLEMAN IN THE REAR!

AND NOW WE PRESENT THAT TEAM OF CRIME-BUSTERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY, IN A DEMONSTRATION OF THE ACROBATIC SKILL THAT HAS MADE THEM WORLD-FAMOUS!

A ROLL OF DRUMS AND A STURDY FIGURE BARREL-ROLLS THROUGH SPACE...

...TO BE CAUGHT AND HELD BY THE TWO OUTSTRETCHED HANDS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA!

OOOH!

DID YOU SEE THAT?

WOW!

THEN, GRIPPING TWO DANGLING ROPES, THE DUO BEGINS TO SWING BACK AND FORTH, PICKING UP MOMENTUM...

...AND, AS IF SHOT FROM A BOW, THE TWO HURTLE FORWARD TO SMACK TWO TARGETS DEAD-CENTER!

WOW! THEY'RE GREAT!

WHAT A TEAM!

DOC SEIZES TWO COLORED FLAGS, AND...

A LITTLE APPLAUSE FOR THESE TWO INTERNATIONAL HEROES! ATCHOO!

YAY!

HOORAY!

MUST BE GETTING A CODE IN THE NOSE!

LATER...

OH...SIR...WOULD YOU MIND IF I TOOK ONE OF THESE FLAGS... AS A SOUVENIR OF THE OCCASION?

SEE THAT MAN WITH DOC? HE'S JIG BAKER'S CONTACT MAN IN THIS BURG! HE'S GOT SOMETHING ON DOC AND DOC CAN'T TALK!

WHY... ARUMPH... OF COURSE, SIR! I UNDERSTAND!

HUH? HOW'D YOU FIGURE THAT OUT, CAP?

REMEMBER HOW DOC CAREFULLY STRESSED THE WORDS INTERNATIONAL AND CODE?

INTERNATIONAL CODE! THE SHIP'S CODE FLAGS IN THE HOIST LINES!

IN INTERNATIONAL CODE THE ALPHABET FLAGS ARE GIVEN NAMES WHICH CAN BE EASILY UNDERSTOOD WHEN CALLED OUT ON DECK! DOC LIFTED THE J OR JIG FLAG AND THE B OR BAKER FLAG! JIG BAKER!

SO TO SHOW DOC I GOT HIS MESSAGE, I PICKED UP THE R OR ROGER FLAG!

I GET IT! NICE WORK, CAD!

MEANWHILE...FOUR WACKY MEN ENTER THE ALUMINUM PLANT...

QUITE A JOINT!

WHERE'S THE SAFE?

ER... IN THROUGH THAT REAR DOOR!

SUDDENLY...

CROWD 'EM, BUCKY...DON'T GIVE 'EM A CHANCE TO USE THEIR GUNS!

THAT ISN'T THE LADDER TO SUCCESS, CHUM!

BUT STALK PIVOTS FAST! A LONG LEG LASHES OUT AT CAP AND...

CAP!

BUT EVEN AS CHIP'S HEAD LIFTS INCHES AWAY FROM THE CRUSHER, A LITHE FIGURE LEAPS AT HIM, AND...

WHAM!

I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE, BUT FAST!

SHALL THESE RUFFIANS AND BLACK-GUARDS ESCAPE? NAY, A THOUSAND TIMES, NAY!

AH! A PERFECT STRIKE!

I OWE YOU SOMETHING AND BROTHER, HERE'S WHERE YOU GET PAID OFF!

LATER, AFTER TOMMY HAS BEEN RETURNED—

AND IT IS TO INTREPID CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY WE DINE ALL!

HEAR! HEAR! WHAT WORDS HAVE YOU TO ADD, TOMMY BOY?

LET'S EAT!

I SECOND THE MOTION!

AFTER DINNER—

I'M A LONELY MAN! I'VE NO CHILDREN I'D LIKE TO BE A GODFATHER TO TOMMY— I'LL SEND HIM TO SCHOOL MEDICAL COLLEGE! HE'D BECOME A **REAL DOCTOR!**

NOT A QUACK DOCTOR LIKE MYSELF!

MY TOMMY BOY! THOMAS SPIEL, M.D.? EGAD, THAT LISTENS WELL!

AND AS FOR YOU, I HAVE A JOB THAT WOULD SATISFY YOUR RESTLESS FEET!

And SOON, IN A DISTANT CITY, DOC SPIEL IS BACK AT THE OLD STAND—

STEP A LITTLE CLOSER, FRIENDS... I HAVE HERE A FEW ARTICLES THAT WILL POSITIVELY AMAZE YOUR EYES! EGAD, DON'T BE BASHFUL... CROWD RIGHT IN!

AND AT THE END OF EVERY MONTH, THERE IS A LONG DISTANCE CALL TO TOMMY—

HERE IT IS, FRIENDS... THE WONDER FRYING PAN OF THE CENTURY! BUY IT BY THE GROSS... BY THE CARLOAD!

ODD CHAP, THAT SPIEL! USES A PITCHMAN'S DELIVERY, BUT HE'S THE **BEST** SALESMAN OF LAMONT ALUMINUM PRODUCTS!

I'LL BE HOME TOMORROW, TOMMY BOY! SOLD ANOTHER SIX HUNDRED GROSS! EGAD, I'M TER-RIF-IC! ARUMPH!

HERE IS THRILLING NEW HOPE

Do You Want LONGER HAIR?

Then **TRY THIS PROVEN EASY SYSTEM ON YOUR HAIR.**

Helps **PREVENT BRITTLE ENDS FROM BREAKING OFF**

Here is thrilling new hope if you want your dry, lusterless, unruly, brittle and breaking off hair to look healthier—longer. Yes, hair may get longer—the scalp and hair condition being otherwise normal—if the hateful, "breaking-off" dry, brittle ends can be prevented. That's why the Juelene SYSTEM is such a proven way to help your hair gain its normal beauty. You also find wonderful SYSTEM helps relieve hair dryness that is caused by lack of moisture oils. It helps soften harsh, brittle ends, thus giving your hair a chance to get longer once the breaking-off and the splitting ends have been stopped. So if your hair is dry, rough and hard to keep neat, try the easy Juelene SYSTEM for just 7 days. See if Juelene's tendency to soften harsh, difficult-to-manage hair can help your hair to become softer, silkier, more lustrous than it has been before—in just one short week! Truly you may win compliments from both men and women who admire and envy your hair in its new lovely beauty. Clip coupon!

MAKE THIS EASY 7-DAY TEST

THRILLING RESULTS, OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

That's all we ask you to do. Just make the astonishing Juelene test for 7 days and see for yourself if your brittle, unloving hair can be softened, made more lovely. Your mirror will tell you the thrilling results and so will your friends! If you aren't absolutely amazed with the glamorizing shine . . . if you aren't delighted with the ease in which you can manage your hair, we will refund every cent of your money. What could be fairer? So don't wait. MAIL THE COUPON right now.

NOW . . . Mail This Trial Coupon

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Try JUELENE. Why be ashamed of unlovely dry hair when it may be so easy to make it beautiful? See how much more beautiful your hair may be in just 7 short days, after the dry hair condition has been relieved. This amazing introductory offer gives you an opportune chance to prove to yourself that you, too, may overcome the handicap of dryness and have sparkling LONGER hair! Be convinced!—Send for it now!

JUEL COMPANY, Dept. E-631
4727 North Damen, Chicago 25, Ill.

JUEL COMPANY, Dept. E-631
4727 North Damen, Chicago 25, Ill.

Yes, I want easy-to-manage, longer hair. I will try the JUELENE SYSTEM for 7 days. If my mirror doesn't show satisfactory results, I will ask for my money back.

☐ I am enclosing $1.00
☐ Send C.O.D. plus postage

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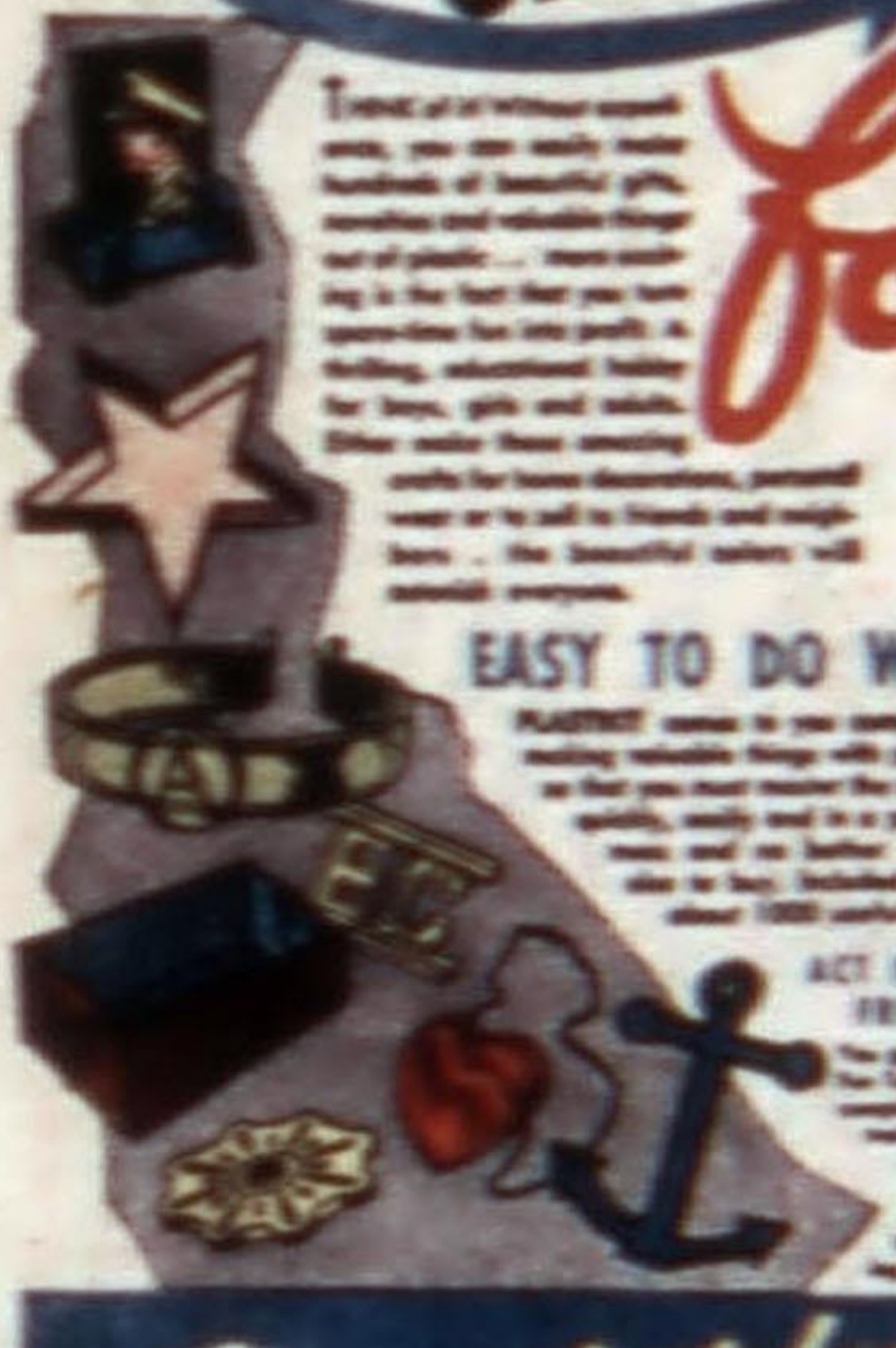

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$1. SATISFIED OR YOUR MONEY BACK

I WONDER WHY WE'RE NOT POPULAR SIS?
ASK YOUR FRIEND TOM
TOM, WHY DON'T SIS AND I GET INVITED TO PROMS AND PARTIES
FRANKLY JIM IT'S THOSE UGLY BLACKHEADS
AREN'T YOU GLAD WE HEARD ABOUT VACUTEX

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT IN SECONDS

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BALLCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 4006
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